

Diary dates

Monday 1pm Bowls
Tuesday 10-12noon Parent and toddlers.
Thursday 9.30am Holy Communion at St John's followed by
Community coffee morning until 12noon.
10-12noon Parent and toddlers.
Thursday – 7pm Alpha course at Christ Church.
Sunday – Harvest service and lunch.
7-9th October – Archbishop Justin Welby visit.
22nd October – 10-12noon Messy Church at Woodrow Community Rooms.
27th October – PCC meeting at St Johns.
26th November – 10-12noon Messy Church at Woodrow Community Rooms.
1st December – Parish Prayers 7.30-8.30pm.

Please pray for:

Garth and Jenny, Richard and Wendy, Ian and Judy.
Our Lay Readers Maureen, Rosie and Vicki.
For those suffering with ill health.
The Kigezi Water and Sanitation project we are supporting.
For those looking for work.
Visit by Archbishop Justin Welby to Worcestershire.
For refugees settling in this country and Town.
For refugee children in camps across the world.
For children waiting for adoption
For charities reaching out to the lost, lonely and hungry.
Maintenance of St John's church building
The Parish Alpha course
For those starting University or new jobs.

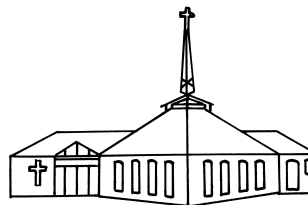
Keep praying for

Tony Ball. Nancy Borthwick
Sylvia Czink Peggy Snellgrove

Contacts

Ipsley Rector: Canon Garth Nathaniel g.nathaniel@btinternet.com
Telephone 01527 522847

Churchwardens: Ann 01527 527789 anndonovan49@yahoo.co.uk
Sharon 01527 541492 forrest_s@btinternet.com



St. John The Evangelist

Greenlands Avenue, Redditch B98 7PZ

Parish of Ipsley

Tel: 01527 501092

stjohnschurchredditch@gmail.com

Sunday 25th September 2016

Dear all,

Nobody could have accused Jesus of deceiving those who would follow Him, that everything would be rosy. He repeatedly warned them that by following Him closely, would bring them hardship and suffering. The future He was calling them to was not to be entered into by those who were unwilling to complete the race.

In the Church Times newspaper this week appears an article about Hidden Japanese Christians. A study into the early Christian movement in Japan when new believers were forced to hide underground for fear of extreme persecution. In today's world the persecution is fiercer than at any other time in our history.

In Luke 14.25-33, Jesus speaks of counting the cost of discipleship. The aim is not just to count the cost, but also to be willing to pay the cost of following Jesus. Paul wrote to Timothy that all who seek to live godly lives in Christ Jesus, will suffer, for this willingness.

Jesus' promises to those who count the cost and find themselves still willing to answer the call and follow Him, are 1] His grace that is sufficient for us in all circumstances. And 2] "to him / her who overcomes, I will give the crown of life."

Paul says we run this race with patience, not for a corruptible crown, but the glorious crown of life.

Every Blessing,
Canon Garth Nathaniel

Who is Jesus? Why did Jesus Die?
How can we have faith? Why and how do I Pray?
Does God Heal Today? What about the Church?

If you've been coming to church for a little or a longer time and you would like answers to the above questions, join us for the Alpha Course starting Thursday September 29th 7.00pm at Christ Church Matchborough. The first evening will be an introductory session including coffee/cakes, a short talk on 'Is there more to life than this?' and then if you wish you can continue with the course. Why not ask a friend or just come along, you will be welcomed at the door. Please let Sharon or Ann know if you would like a lift.

Harvest 2016

We will be having our Harvest service next Sunday, please bring in donations of tinned foods which will be sent onto Redditch Foodbank. Redditch Foodbank gave out 1,417 parcels in 2015, the large majority of people who are signposted to the Foodbank visit only once. Food parcels help people who face a short term crisis, either through benefits being halted or a large sudden bill coming in. In Redditch the average monthly home rent is £599.

Our service will follow with a Harvest lunch - jacket potatoes, fillings and salad. To help with catering please let us know you will be coming along by popping your name on the sign up sheet on the desk in the foyer. Please provide a donation on the day to cover costs, any money over will go towards Toilet Twinning.

NEW Pilgrim course

A new course on the topic of the Creeds using Church of England resources, on alternate Wednesday evenings starting at 7.30pm is being ran by Garth in the Huband room at St Peter's. The next meeting is on the 5th October please do consider this excellent way of learning more about your faith. If you need a lift please see Sharon.

Bromsgrove and Redditch welcome refugees

Donations of clothing, footwear, kitchen items, food, camping gear, bedding and hygiene products can be made next Saturday 1st October at the Bridge Church in Headless Cross, or please call Sharon who can drop them off for you. The donations, with the help of 'People in Motion' will go to more than 7,000 people in the camps at Calais, 600 of them are unaccompanied children. Visit www.brwr.uk for more information.

Today Sunday 25th September – Trinity 18

10.30am Holy Communion and healing prayer with Revd. Garth Nathaniel, Maureen Hughes will be speaking on 'Mind the gap'. Luke 16:19-31 and Amos 6:1a,4-7.

Children's groups and Sunday Jump.

6.30pm Evening worship with Rosemary Humphrey

Next Sunday 2nd October – Harvest

10.30am Harvest Worship For Everyone with Rosemary Humphrey Habakkuk 1.1-4; 2.1-4 and Luke 17.5-10. 'Waiting on God'.

Harvest Lunch

6.30pm Holy Communion and healing prayer with Revd. Richard Harding.

Card making

Lynda will be holding the next card making social on Friday 21st October 10-noon, the cost to cover materials is £3, please let Lynda know you aim to go along, 33 Atherstone Close, Matchborough.

Thank you

Explorer and Pathfinder children had a great evening on Friday, thanks to Rob, Vicki, Lynda and Vicky who organised games and refreshments.

Collect for the week.

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us your gift of faith that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to that which is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; through Jesus Christ your son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. AMEN